TRANSCRIPT: The inclusion class: linking with mainstream

Menita Sekhon

When we started this new programme with the link classes, there were children that found it very difficult being in a big mainstream classroom with lots of noises and distractions, and there were children that didn't enjoy the experience, and we really had to take it very slowly, and we implemented things to help them. We did stress charts, which helped us know at what point of the day they were getting stressed. We used rewards systems with them as well. We used surveys, you know, every time they would go up to class we would get them to fill in this little visual survey to see how they felt. But, over time, it's become a really positive experience and it's the opposite reaction now. Whenever we say it's time to go to upstairs to your class, it's eagerness, there's confidence, and when we tell them, 'Actually it's been cancelled today', for whatever reason, we often get groans because they enjoy the experience. So it's been amazing but it's taken about a year for them to get to that point.

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